where the snow first melts and there form almost nesting-colonies, as the nests are tolerably close to each other, in most cases only a few steps apart, and even closer if those of the previous year are included. They are mere depressions in the moss in places where the moss or grass from the previous year is most abundant, and not unfrequently an old nest is made use of. Both the male and female incubate. On the south coast of Taimyr Bay, where Mr. Birulia was in July 1901, the Curlew-Sandpiper was much rarer. He did not see any on New Siberia, but Curlew-Sandpipers were met with on other islands of the Archipelago.

[To be continued.]

XXIII.—*Proceedings at the Annual General Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union*, 1908.

The Annual General Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union for this year was held at the house of the Zoological Society of London, 3 Hanover Square (by permission), on May 20th. The Chair was taken by the President, F. DuCane Godman, Esq., D.C.L., F.R.S.

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Report of the Committee announced the continued prosperity of the Union during the past year as regards both its membership and its finances.

The volume of 'The Ibis' for 1907 was the first of the Ninth Series, under the joint Editorship of Dr. P. L. Sclater, D.Sc., F.R.S., and Mr. A. H. Evans, M.A. It contained 685 pages and was illustrated by 10 coloured plates, 3 maps, and 34 text-figures.

With regret the Committee reported the deaths of the following Members of the Union since the last Annual General Meeting:—

F. C. Crawford, Prof. A. Newton, T. M. Pike, Howard Saunders, Earl Sondes, and C. A. Wright.

Dr. Charles Hose, Mr. A. H. Smith, and Major C. L. Williams had resigned, and Messrs. F. H. Bulkeley-Johnson and R. C. Wood had had their elections cancelled at their request.

At the date of the Meeting the Union consisted of 414 Ordinary Members, 2 Extra-Ordinary, 10 Honorary, 6 Colonial, and 19 Foreign Members.

The Committee proposed that, in consequence of the death of Prof. Newton, the Jubilee Meeting in 1908 should take place in London, instead of Cambridge, about the second week in December. This was agreed to.

On the motion of Dr. Sclater, seconded by Dr. Hartert, it was then resolved: "That the following Members be requested to act on a Joint Committee along with the Ordinary Committee to make the necessary arrangements for the Jubilee Meeting in December next:—Messrs. Edward Bidwell, H. E. Dresser, and E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, the Hon. Walter Rothschild, Mr. D. Seth-Smith, and Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe."

The Statement of Accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1907, was submitted and approved, and a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, the Auditor.

Mr. Henry Munt and Dr. F. G. Penrose having been appointed Scrutineers to superintend the ballot, the Meeting proceeded to elect the Officers for the ensuing year, and it was announced that Dr. F. DuCane Godman, F.R.S., had been re-elected President, and Mr. J. Lewis Bonhote, M.A., F.L.S., Secretary; also that Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant had been elected a Member of the Committee in the place of Mr. H. E. Dresser, who had retired by seniority.

The following 25 gentlemen were elected Ordinary Members of the Union:—Dr. John W. Ashworth, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.R.G.S., F.G.S., Thorne Bank, Heaton Moor, near Stockport; Crispin A. Ball (Soudan Civil Service), Dueim, Soudan; Walter I. Beaumont, F.Z.S., 1 Osborne Place, Plymouth; Clifford D. Borrer, 6 Durham Place, Chelsea, S.W.; Edward J. Brook, Hoddam Castle, Ecclefechan, N.B.; Percy F. Bunyard, F.Z.S., 57 Kidderminster

Road, Croydon; Thomas Carter, Wensleydale, Broome Hill (Great Southern Railway), West Australia; Robert Cheesman, Bakers' Cross, Cranbrook; Claude G. Davies, Cape Mounted Riflemen, Flagstaff, Pondoland; Capt. Edward S. Godman (2nd Dorset Regiment), Muntham, Horsham; Gerard H. Gurney, F.Z.S., F.E.S., Keswick Hall, Norwich; Ralph S. Keep, F.R.H.S., Oakhill, East Budleigh, Devon; Sydney H. Long, M.D., 37 St. Giles Street, Norwich; Charles H. Lyell, M.P., 48 Eaton Place, S.W.; Stuart Maples, Kingsbury, Stevenage, Herts; Richard O. Mathews, Langley Mount, Watford; A. R. Momber, La Junia, San Remo, Italy; Edward R. Paton, Brookdale, Grassendale, near Liverpool; W. J. Percy Player, The Quarr, Clydach, Glamorganshire; Norman F. Richardson, "Lynndale," Manor Road, Forest Hill, S.E.; Sir Henry B. Robertson, Palé, Corwen, N. Wales; Capt. John W. H. Seppings (Army Pay Dept.), 12 Roseneath Villas, Military Road, Cork, Ireland; Frederic W. Smalley, Challan Hall, Silverdale, near Carnforth, Lancs; Matthew Vaughan, Haileybury College, Herts; Gwynne Witherington, Sonning, Berks.

Messrs. J. H. J. Farquhar, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Southern Nigeria, and Robert Hall, F.L.S., C.M.Z.S., Curator of the Tasmanian Museum, Hobart Town, Tasmania, were elected Colonial Members, and Charles W. Richmond, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, was elected a Foreign Member.

A Donation of Ten Guineas was ordered to be made to the Fund being raised for the children of the late G. A. Doubleday, Editors' Assistant.

It was agreed that the President and Secretary on behalf of the Union should sign a Petition to the House of Lords in favour of the "Bill to Prohibit the Importation of the Plumage and Skins of Wild Birds."

A vote of thanks to the Zoological Society for the use of their rooms during the past year was unanimously passed.

Mr. Witherby then proposed and Mr. Bickerton seconded the following new rule:—

"That on satisfactory evidence being furnished to the

Committee that any Member of the Union has taken or caused to be taken, or killed or caused to be killed, or purchased, knowing it to have been taken or killed in the British Islands, any egg or bird as detailed below, the Secretary of the Union shall be directed to remove the said Member's name from the list of Members, and to inform the said Member of the fact in writing. Further that no Member removed under this law shall be allowed to stand as a Candidate for re-election within the space of five years, and that should such Member be proposed as a Candidate after this lapse of time, then it shall be clearly pointed out in the list of Candidates that such Candidate had been removed under this law.

"The prohibition shall refer to the eggs of any of the species named in either of the following lists, and in the case of birds it shall refer at all times of the year to those in list A, but only in the breeding-season to those in list B.

"A.—Bearded Tit (*Panurus biarmicus*), Golden Oriole (*Oriolus galbula*), Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*), Marsh-Harrier (*Circus æruginosus*), Hen-Harrier (*C. cyaneus*), Montagu's Harrier (*C. cineraceus*), Common Buzzard (*Buteo vulgaris*), Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaëtus*), White-tailed Eagle (*Haliaëtus albicilla*), Kite (*Milvus ictinus*), Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), Hobby (*F. subbuteo*), Osprey (*Pandion haliaëtus*), Common Bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*), Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*), Kentish Plover (*Ægialitis cantiana*), and Avocet (*Recurvirostra avocetta*).

"B.—Crested Tit (*Parus cristatus*), Snow-Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*), Grey Lag Goose (*Anser cinereus*), Dotterel (*Eudromias morinellus*), Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus hyperboreus*), Ruff (*Machetes pugnax*), Whimbrel (*Numenius phæopus*), Black Tern (*Hydrochelidon nigra*), Sandwich Tern (*Sterna cantiaca*), Roseate Tern (*S. dougalli*), Great Skua (*Megalestris catarrhactes*), Black-throated

Diver (*Colymbus arcticus*), and Red-throated Diver (*C. septentrionalis*)."

After a discussion the following amendment was proposed by Dr. Sclater and seconded by Mr. Bidwell :—

"That the subject be referred to the Committee of the Union to report on at the next Meeting."

On the understanding that "the next Meeting" should be the Special Meeting to be held in the autumn and that the matter should not be held over for a year, the amendment was put first and carried.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman the Meeting was adjourned.

XXIV.—*Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.*

[Continued from p. 384.]

56. *Allen on 'Pennant's Indian Zoology.'*

[Pennant's Indian Zoology. By J. A. Allen. Bull. Am. Mus. N. H. vol. xxiv. pp. 111–116 (1908).]

Dr. Allen has found in the library of the New York Academy of Sciences (now on deposit at the American Museum of Natural History) a copy of the rare first edition of Pennant's 'Indian Zoology' (1769), and gives us a complete account of the various editions of this and the allied work, Forster's 'Indische Zoologie' (1781), which will be acceptable to those who study nomenclature. It has an important bearing, we are told, on the names of a number of species which "here for the first time received technical designations." There is also a copy of this book in the British Museum, concerning which the late Professor Newton gave much information in 1879 ('Stray Feathers,' viii. p. 414). The main point seems to be that, as shown by Dr. Allen (*op. cit.* p. 114), many of the names usually accredited to Forster (1783) were really first published by Pennant (1769). It should also be noted that the generic